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PATENT Attorney Docket No. 9223A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Brazier et al.

Application No.:

10/516,967

Filed:

December 3, 2004

For:

MAT

Group Art Unit:

1771

Examiner:

Cheryl Ann Juska

Commissioner for Patents Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and/or Substitute Form PTO-1449 ("Form 1449") are submitted for consideration by the Examiner in the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The full consideration of the references in their entirety by the Examiner is respectfully requested and encouraged. Also, it is respectfully requested that the references be entered into the record of the present application and that the Examiner place his or her initials in the appropriate area on the enclosed Form 1449, thereby indicating the Examiner's consideration of each of the references.

The submission of the references listed on the Form 1449 is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references listed thereon are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application. The right is expressly reserved to establish an invention date earlier than the above-identified filing date in order to remove any reference submitted herewith as prior art should it be deemed appropriate to do so.

Further, the submission of the references is not to be taken as a concession that any reference represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved.

In re Application of: Brazier et al. Application No. 10/516,967

The In	formation	on Disclosure Statement is being filed:					
	within any one of the following time periods: (a) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFF 1.53(d); (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 of an international application; (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or (d) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.						
	1.113,	a), (b), (c) or (d) above, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes cution in the application, and includes one of:					
	or	the statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)" below).					
		the fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).					
	under and or 1.97(e	ne mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, or before payment of the issue fee, and includes the Statement under 37 CFR (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)" below), and the fee of \$180.00 as set 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).					
	after the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, and on or before payment of the issue fee, and within thirty days of receiving each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement, and includes the Statement under 37 CFR 1.704(d) (see "Statement under 37 CFR 1.704(d)" below), and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below). NOTE: This is for original applications except applications for a design patent, filed on or after May 29, 2000, wherein a paper containing only an Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with 31 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 is being filed.						
Copie	s of the	References					
\boxtimes	Copies of the references identified on the accompanying Form 1449, with the exception of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications, are enclosed herewith.						
	Attached to each reference not in the English language is a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3). An English-language equivalent/patent, or an English-language abstract, or an English-language version of the search report or action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted in lieu of a concise explanation of the relevance pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).						
	search docum	of the foreign search report is enclosed herewith. The submission of the foreign report does not constitute an admission regarding the relevance of the cited ents or the propriety of the analysis set forth therein. The right is expressly ed to argue the lack of relevance of the cited documents or the impropriety of the					

analysis set forth therein.

	pplication of: Brazier et al. ation No. 10/516,967						
	The references listed on the enclosed Form 1449 were previously identified in the parent application(s) of the present application, and copies of the references were furnished at that time. Accordingly, additional copies of the references are not submitted herewith, so as not to burden the file with duplicate copies of references. The Examiner is respectfully requested to carefully review the references in accordance with the requirements set out in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(d), the details of the parent application(s) relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120 in which copies of the references were previously furnished are set out below:						
		U.S. APPLICATIONS					
	Application No.	Filing Date	Status				
	·						
State	The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three months prior to the fling of the Information Disclosure Statement. The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.						
State	The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.						
Fees							
	No fee is owed by the a The IDS Fee of \$180.00	applicant(s). 0 under 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclo	osed herewith.				

In re Application of: Brazier et al. Application No. 10/516,967

Method o	of Pay	ment	of I	Fees
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Attached is a check in the amount of \$0.00.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 04-0500 in the amount of \$0.00. (If submitted via first class mail or as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," a duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for this purpose.)

Authorization to Charge Additional Fees Due

If any fees are owed in connection with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-0500. (If submitted via first class mail or as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," a duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for this purpose.)

Instructions as to Overpayment

> Charlotte C. Wilson Reg. No. 45,224

MILLIKEN & COMPANY 920 Milliken Road, M-495 Post Office Box 1926 Spartanburg, SC 29304 Telephone: (864) 503-2194

Facsimile: (864) 503-1999

Date: February 21, 2007

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and all correspondence referenced herein as being enclosed with this correspondence, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450" with sufficient postage on the following

Date: February 21, 2007

Signature:

Name: Kim Barnette

FEB 23 2007

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of

Complete if Known						
Application Number	10/516,967					
Filing Date	December 3, 2004					
First Named Inventor	Peter C. Brazier					
Art Unit	1771					
Examiner Name	Cheryl Ann Juska					
Attorney Docket Number	9223A					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		U.S. Patent Docum					
Examiner Initials	Doc. No.	Patent or Publication Number	Kind Code	Publication Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		
	AA	US 4,109,039		08/22/78	McCoy		
	AB	US 4,112,176		09/05/78	Bailey		
	AC	US 5,170,526		12/15/92	Murray		
	AD	US 6,623,840		09/23/03	Hainbach		
	AE	US 6,821,623		11/23/04	Kvesic		
	AF	US 2003/0072911	A1	04/17/03	Higgins et al.		
	AG	US 2003/0170420	A1	09/11/03	Higgins et al.		
	AH	US 2003/0203152	A1	10/30/03	Higgins et al.		
	Al	US 2004/0022985	A1	02/05/04	Higgins et al.		
	AJ	US 2004/0022991	A1	02/05/04	Higgins et al.		
	AK	US 2004/0022994	A1	02/05/04	Higgins et al.		
	AL	US 2005/0031829	A1	02/10/05	Crenshaw et al.		
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known		
				Application Number	10/516,967	
INFO	RMATION	DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date	December 3, 2004	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				First Named Inventor	Peter C. Brazier	
				Art Unit	1771	
	(Use as many shee	ets as	necessary)	Examiner Name	Cheryl Ann Juska	
Sheet 2 of 2			2	Attorney Docket Number	9223A	

					TENT DOCUME	ENTS		
		Foreign Patent Document			Translation			
Examiner Initials	Doc. No.	Office	Number	Kind Code	Publication Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Yes	No*
	AM	EP	0581571	B1	07/08/98	Canon Kabushiki Kaisha		
	AN	FR	2763880	A1	12/04/98	Levasseur	П	
	AO	GB	1373923	A1	11/13/74	Minnesota Mining & Mfg. Co.		
	AP	JP	030023816	Α	01/31/91	Tamija Corp.		
	AQ	JP	030244684	Α	10/31/91	Nippon Ratetsukusu Kako KK		
	AR	JP	050050541	Α	03/02/93	Inoac Corp		
· ·	AS	JP	070100048	Α	04/18/95	Ohtsu Tire & Rubber Co, Ltd. :The		
	AT	JP	070275107	Α	10/24/95	Inoac Corp.		
	AU	WO	1996/011106	A1	04/18/96	Milliken Research Corp.		
	AV	WO	1996/022413	A1	07/25/96	EKOTEX SRO		
	AW	WO	1996/038298	A1	12/05/96	Milliken Research Corp.		
	AX	WO	2003/014462	A1	02/20/03	Royal Rubber Manufacturing		
					,			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

A concise statement of relevance is being submitted in lieu of a translation. 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).
 An English-language equivalent/patent, or an English-language abstract, or an English-language version of the search report or action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted in lieu of a consice explanation of relevance under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).